

In the Claims

Please cancel all claims and add claims 11-17 as follows:

Claims 1-7 (cancelled)

Claims 8-10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (new) Apparatus for controlling and/or supervising an operation at a remote location comprising:

at least one controlling and/or supervising device (1; 12;17); and

server equipment embedded in said controlling and/or supervising device to enable the device to be connected to a network;

characterized in that

said server equipment consists of a TCP/IP Web and/or Internet server characterized by a MAC address and arranged to give said controlling and/or supervising device (1; 12; 17) the capability of being operatively connected directly to a TCP/IP wide area network (WAN) comprising the Internet (4), or a TCP/IP local area network (LAN) comprising an Ethernet-type network, to transmit information to the network and/or receive information from the network in TCP/IP, and to enable processor means (2;6;7;8;9;16) using TCP/IP, when operatively connected to the network, to access said controlling and/or supervising device (1;12;17).

Claim 12 (new) Apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said server equipment includes means for transmitting information from the or each said control and/or supervising device in the form of an e-mail.

Claim 13 (new) Apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said at least one control and/or supervising device (1; 12; 17) incorporates a microprocessor, and said server equipment is embedded in the microprocessor memory.

Claim 14 (new) Apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said at least one control and/or supervising device incorporates an Internet and/or Ethernet type network hub for connection to a plurality of further control and/or supervising devices to connect said further devices to the Internet and/or Ethernet-type network.

Claim 15 (new) Apparatus as claimed in claim 11 including a plurality of said control and/or supervising devices connected to an Ethernet-type network which in turn is connected to the internet to provide an open system accessible via the internet.

Claim 16 (new) Apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said at least one control and/or supervising device comprise one or more of the following, namely a process controller, a panel meter, a transmitter of processing information, a signal conditioner and a device for measuring and/or monitoring factors.

Claim 17 (new) The method of operating apparatus for controlling and/or supervising an operation at a remote location, which comprises the steps of:

feeding information to and/or from a least one device (1; 12; 17) for controlling and/or supervising said operation, via server equipment embedded in said device, which enables the device to be connected to a network; and

transmitting said information via said server equipment to and/or from the network;

characterized in that

the server equipment is a TCP/IP Web and/or Internet server characterized by a MAC address and operatively connected directed to a TCP/IP wide area network (WAN) comprising the internet (4), or a TCP/IP local area network (LAN) comprising an Ethernet-type network, to transmit information to the network and/or receive information from the network in TCP/IP, and to enable processor means (2;6;7;8;9;16) using TCP/IP, and operatively connected to the network, to access said device (1; 12; 17) to receive information regarding supervision of said operation from said device and to transmit information to said device to modify said operation.